

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A printing method comprising:

determining locations in a printed image for a plurality of first color dots and locations in said printed image for a plurality of second color dots; and

determining locations in said printed image for a plurality of third color dots, wherein said locations for said third color dots are dependent on said locations of said first color dots and also dependent on said locations of said second color dots, wherein placement of each of said third color dots is subject to a first condition that prevents a dot of said third color from being printed at a location at which both a dot of said first color and a dot of said second color have been placed.

2. (Currently Amended) The printing method of Claim 1 comprising:

[[a)]] first determining whether a dot of said first color is to be printed at a particular location;

[[b)]] second determining whether a dot of said second color is to be printed at said particular location;

[[c)]] subsequent to said first determining and said second determining steps a) and b), determining whether a dot of said a third color is to be printed at said particular location, wherein printing of said a dot of said third color at said particular location is dependent on satisfying a second condition for deciding when overlap of said a dot of said third color with a dot of one other another color at said particular location is acceptable; and

[[d)]] printing said a dot of said third color at said particular location when said second condition is satisfied and otherwise not printing said a dot of said third color.

3. (Currently Amended) The printing method of Claim 2 wherein said second condition is satisfied ~~comprising: printing said dot of said third color at said particular location~~ when neither a dot of said first color nor ~~and~~ a dot of said second color are ~~not~~ to be printed at said particular location.

4. (Currently Amended) The printing method of Claim 2 further comprising:

performing error diffusion to modify an intensity value of said dot of said third color resulting in a modified third color intensity value for said dot of said third color; and

limiting said modified third intensity value to a predefined range; ~~and printing said dot of said third color at said particular location~~ wherein said second condition is satisfied when neither a dot of said first color nor ~~and~~ a dot of said second color are ~~not~~ to be printed at said particular location and when a third condition based on said modified third color intensity value is satisfied ~~[[,]] and otherwise not printing said dot of said third color.~~

5. (Canceled).

6. (Original) The printing method of Claim 2 comprising:

determining an amount of fill at said particular location when it is determined that a dot of another color is to be printed at said particular location.

7. (Currently Amended) The printing method of Claim 6 wherein said second condition is not satisfied ~~further comprising: not printing said dot of said third color at said particular location~~ when there is less than 100 percent fill at said particular location.

8. (Currently Amended) The printing method of Claim 6 further comprising:

performing error diffusion to modify an intensity value of said dot of said third color resulting in a modified third color intensity value for said dot of said third color; and

performing error diffusion to modify an intensity value of said dot of said first color resulting in a modified first color intensity value for said dot of said first color; ~~and printing said dot of said third color at said particular location~~ wherein said second condition is satisfied when there is greater than or equal to 100 percent fill at said particular location and when a third condition based on said modified third color intensity value and said modified first color intensity value is satisfied [[,]] ~~and otherwise not printing said dot of said third color.~~

9. (Original) The printing method of Claim 1 wherein said first color and said second color are selected from the group consisting of cyan and magenta and wherein said third color is yellow.

10. (Original) The printing method of Claim 1 wherein said printing is performed using an inkjet printer.

11. (Currently Amended) A system used in printing, said system comprising:

a memory unit; and

a controller coupled to said memory unit, said controller for executing a printing method, said printing method comprising:

determining locations in a printed image for a plurality of first color dots and locations in said printed image for a plurality of second color dots; and

determining locations in said printed image for a plurality of third color dots, wherein said locations for said third color dots are dependent on said locations of said first color dots and also dependent on said locations of said second color dots, wherein a dot of said third color and a dot of said first color are both printable at a particular location provided there is at least 100 percent fill at said particular location and provided a first modified intensity value of said dot of said third color is greater than a second modified intensity value of said dot of said first color, said first and second modified intensity values comprising respective first and second intensity values that were modified using error diffusion.

12. (Canceled).

13. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim ~~11~~ 12 wherein ~~said method comprises: printing~~ said dot of said third color is printable at said particular location ~~when~~ provided neither a dot of said first color nor ~~and~~ a dot of said second color are ~~not~~ to be printed at said particular location.

14. (Canceled).

15. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim ~~11~~ 12 wherein ~~said method comprises: not printing~~ said dot of said third color is not printed at said particular location ~~when~~ if both a dot of said first color and a dot of said second color are to be printed at said particular location.

16-18. (Canceled).

19. (Original) The system of Claim 11 wherein said first color and said second color are selected from the group consisting of cyan and magenta and wherein said third color is yellow.

20. (Original) The system of Claim 11 wherein said printing is performed using an inkjet printer.

21. (Currently Amended) A computer-usable medium having computer-readable code stored thereon for causing a system used in printing to perform a printing method comprising:

determining locations in a printed image for a plurality of first color dots and locations in said printed image for a plurality of second color dots; and

determining locations in said printed image for a plurality of third color dots, wherein said locations for said third color dots are dependent on said locations of said first color dots and also dependent on said locations of said second color dots, wherein a dot of said third color and a dot of said first color are both printable at a particular location provided there is at least 100 percent fill at said particular location, provided a first modified intensity value of said dot of said first color is greater than a second modified intensity value of said dot of said third color, wherein said first and second modified intensity values comprise respective first and second

intensity values that have been modified using error diffusion, provided the sum of said first and second modified intensity values is greater than a first threshold and provided the difference between said first and second modified intensity values is less than a second threshold.

22. (Canceled).

23. (Currently Amended) The computer-usable medium of Claim ~~21~~ 22 wherein ~~said computer-readable program code embodied therein causes a system used for printing to perform a printing method comprising:~~ printing said dot of said third color is printable at said particular location provided neither ~~when~~ a dot of said first color nor ~~and~~ a dot of said second color are ~~not~~ to be printed at said particular location.

24. (Canceled).

25. (Currently Amended) The computer-usable medium of Claim ~~21~~ 22 wherein ~~said computer-readable program code embodied therein causes a system used for printing to perform a printing method comprising:~~ not printing said dot of said third color is not printed at said particular location if both ~~when~~ a dot of said first color and a dot of said second color are to be printed at said particular location.

26-28. (Canceled).

29. (Original) The computer-usable medium of Claim 21 wherein said first color and said second color are selected from the group consisting of cyan and magenta and wherein said third color is yellow.

30. (Original) The computer-usable medium of Claim 21 wherein said printing is performed using an inkjet printer.